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Customer No: **07055**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hai-Van NGUYEN et al.

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Appln. No. : Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

I.A. Filed : December 2, 2004

For : PAPER MACHINE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop **PCT**
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to an examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this Preliminary Amendment.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A paper machine for the production of a paper, board, tissue or other fibrous web (2), comprising a press section (1) having at least one press nip and comprising an impingement dryer (13) arranged immediately after the press section,
characterized in that
the paper machine has an applicator (17) for applying a coating color in the manner of a curtain (21) or for the film application (26) of coating color or for spraying (31) coating color on.
2. (Original) The paper machine as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that
it comprises a press section (1) having at least one press nip, an impingement dryer (13) arranged immediately after the press section (1), a first part of a drying section (34.1), an applicator (17) for applying a coating color in the manner of a curtain (21) or for the film application (26) of coating color or for spraying (31) coating color on, and then a second part of a drying section (34.1).
3. (Currently Amended) The paper machine as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
characterized in that

it has a machine speed of more than 1500 m/min, preferably of more than 1700 m/min, in particular of more than 1800 m/min.

4. (Currently Amended) The paper machine as claimed in claim 1,~~2 or 3~~,
characterized in that
the coating color has a viscosity in the range from 500 to 800 Pa·s.

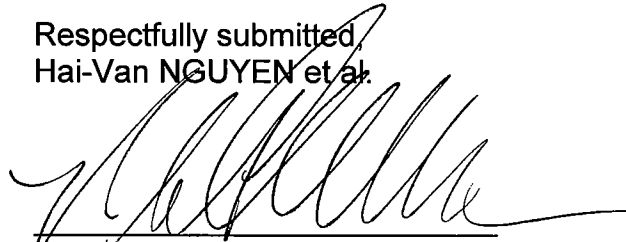
REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

Applicants note that the instant amendment has been prepared to remove multiply dependent claims in order to reduce governmental filing fees and to present the claims in better form for U.S. patent prosecution. Thus, Applicants submit that the instant amendment has not been made for any reasons related to patentability such that no estoppel should be deemed to attach.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hai-Van NGUYEN et al.



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